



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/698,818
Filing Date: October 31, 2003
Applicants: Levi T. Thompson, et al.
Group Art Unit: 1755
Examiner: Patricia L. Hailey
Title: Carbide/Nitride Based Fuel Processing Catalysts
Attorney Docket: 2115-002542
Confirmation No. 2440
Notice of Allowance dated January 25, 2005

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Director of the United States Patent
and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated January 25, 2005, Applicants make the following observations.

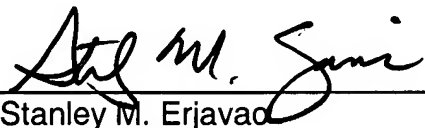
Applicants respectfully acknowledge the Examiner allowing this application. With respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, however, Applicants respectfully submit that the elements that the Examiner asserts and the interpretation thereof for the basis for allowing this application too narrowly

define the invention. In fact, Applicants respectfully submit that the elements and their interpretation relied upon by the Examiner, and other elements found in the claims, could be characterized more broadly, and in different combinations and sub-combinations, and still present patentable subject matter. Further, Applicants' invention differs from the prior art of record by features other than the limitations cited by the Examiner.

If the Examiner would like to discuss this matter further, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,
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SME/al